

*As parents,
you will be
notified one year
prior to the
student reaching
age of majority.
At that time, you
will be informed
of the rights that
will transfer to
your child.*

*You may refer to the
Exceptional Children
Handbook on Parents' Rights*



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**Exceptional Children's
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Exceptional Children's Department/Transition Planning/
Supplementary Materials/Clark/updated2012

**Rights at the
Age of
Majority**



**Transition
Planning**

**Can help you
with the
answers...**

*What is
"age of majority"
and what happens
at that age?*

The age of majority
in North Carolina
is 18.

**When a student reaches
age of majority, the rights
of the parent legally
transfer to the student.**

The following activities would shift
from the parent to the student:

- Notice of meetings
(including IEP meetings)*
- Notice and consent for
evaluation*
- Right to invite additional
participants to IEP meetings
- Notice and consent for special
education and regular services

*Parents retain the right to notice.

**And now, the
decision-making begins...**

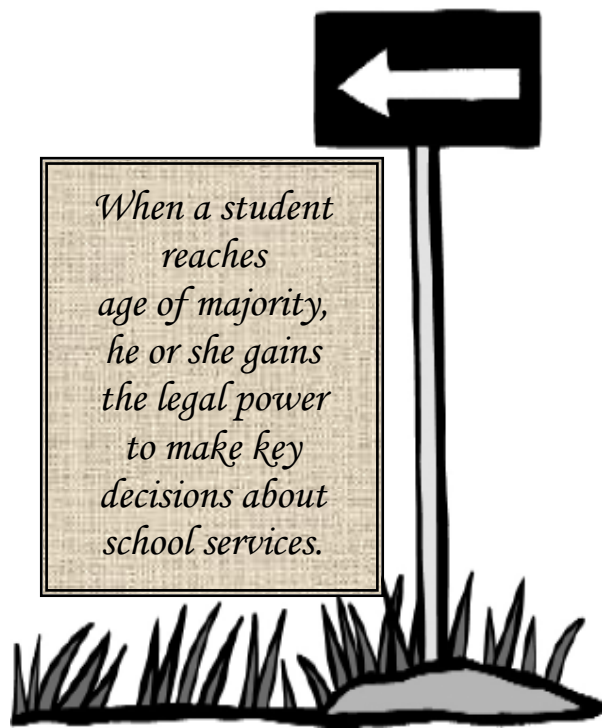
If you do not think your child will
be able to make decisions
regarding various aspects of life
(e.g., education, money
management, health care, etc.),
then you should consider an
entire range of options for
supporting your child in these
decisions. These options
include guardianship,
conservator, and power of
attorney as well as others.

♦A document entitled "Age of Majority:
Preparing Your Child for Making
Good Choices" (found at
[www.ncset.org/publications/viewdesc.
asp?id=318](http://www.ncset.org/publications/viewdesc.asp?id=318)) can help you and your
child learn more about issues related
to age of majority.

♦In addition, www.guardianship.org
provides information about the
alternatives to guardianship.

♦A student who has reached age of
majority or older and is his or her own
guardian may still need help to make
important decisions.

*The schools, parents, and others
may offer the student support;
however, final decisions need to
be made by the student.*



*When a student
reaches
age of majority,
he or she gains
the legal power
to make key
decisions about
school services.*

**Reaching the age of majority brings
new issues for families.**

**Some of the resources available
for families include:**

⇒Age of Majority: Preparing Your
Child for Making Good Choices
[www.ncset.org/publications/viewdesc.
asp?id=318](http://www.ncset.org/publications/viewdesc.asp?id=318)

⇒National Guardianship Association
www.guardianship.org

⇒North Carolina Guardianship Association
www.nc-guardian.org

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